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Grant Hilderbrand, Region II Supervisor  
Division of Wildlife Conservation  
333 Raspberry Road  
Anchorage, AK 99518  
(907) 267-2190

Contact:

Jeff Selinger, Area Mgmt. Biologist  
Division of Wildlife Conservation  
43961 Kalifornsky Beach Rd., Ste B  
Soldotna, AK 99669  
(907) 260-2905

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# Alaska Department of Fish & Game

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## NEWS

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### **2005 fall brown bear season on the Kenai Peninsula will not be opened**

**Soldotna** – The brown bear registration hunt (RB 160) scheduled for October 15-31 in Game Management Units 7 and 15, will not open because the total human-caused mortality of brown bears is at the management limit. Human-caused mortality include defense of life and property kills, automobile collisions, illegally taken brown bears, and hunter kills.

The Department recommends a 3-year average of human-caused mortalities that does not exceed 20 total bears, nor exceed 8 female bears older than 1 year. The current 3-year average, from 2003-2005, of human-caused mortalities of brown bears on the Kenai Peninsula is 8 females older than 1 year and 17 total bears. The total number of brown bears reported killed in 2005 is 17 bears including 7 females. Any additional mortality would exceed the current management objective. Therefore, the fall 2005 brown bear hunting season will be closed by emergency order.

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